

Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EA-07 ISO-00 CU-02 PM-04 L-03 DHA-02

CIAE-00 DODE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 PA-01 USIA-06

PRS-01 SP-02 /046 W

-----039204 021154Z /53

R 020932Z JUL 77

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INFO OAU CONFERENCE COLLECTIVE

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E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PORG, OEXC, OAU

SUBJ: OAU SOUTH AFRICA SPORTS BOYCOTT

REF: YAOUNDE 2803 NOTAL

1. CHAIRMAN OF UN APARTHEID COMMITTEE (HARRIMAN OF NIGERIA) TOLD ME JULY 1 THAT OAU HAS FOLLOWED COMMONWEALTH LEAD IN TAKING POSITION ALONG LINES RECOMMENDED BY DIACK OF SENEGAL -- I.E., SELECTIVE BOYCOTT OF INDIVIDUAL NATIONAL SPORTS FEDERATIONS WHOSE MEMBERS COMPETE AGAINST SOUTH AFRICAN TEAMS RATHER THAN BLANKET BOYCOTT OF ALL ATHLETES FROM NATION INVOLVED. THUS, AFRICANS WOULD NOT, FOR EXAMPLE, PLAY NEW ZEALAND RUGBY TEAMS, UT WOULD ACCEPT COMPETITION WITH NEW ZEALAND ATHLETES IN ANY SPORTS IN WHICH LATTER HAD NOT PLAYED AGAINST SOUTH AFRICANS.

2. ACCORDING TO HARRIMAN, OAU POSITION INCLUDES PROVISION FOR SECONDARY BOYCOTT AGAINST NATIONAL FEDERATIONS WHICH COMPETE AGAINST FEDERATIONS OF OTHER COUNTRIES WHICH ARE ON INITIAL BOYCOTT LIST. EXAMPLE HERE WOULD BE AS FOLLOWS:

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IF NEW ZEALAND RUGBY FEDERATION PERMITS COMPETITION AGAINST SOUTH AFRICA, NEW ZEALANDERS ARE PLACED ON BOYCOTT LIST. IF FRENCH RUGBY TEAM THEN COMPETES AGAINST NEW ZEALAND, FRENCH FEDERATION BECOMES VICTIM OF SECONDARY BOYCOTT AND AFRICANS WILL REFUSE TO PLAY FRENCH TEAMS AS WELL.

3. EFFECT OF NEW DECISION IS TO OPEN WAY FOR AFRICAN
ATHLETES TO PARTICIPATE IN INTERNATIONAL MEETS IN MOST
SPORTS, SKIPPING ONLY THOSE FEW WHERE ONE OR ANOTHER
NATIONAL FEDERATION HAS SANCTIONED COMPETITION AGAINST
SOUTH AFRICA. STEIGMAN

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptoning: X
Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: BOYCOTTS, ATHLETIC PRESENTATIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Sent Date: 02-Jul-1977 12:00:00 am
Decapton Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am
Decapton Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 22 May 2009
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977LIBREV01660
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D770237-0084
Format: TEL
From: LIBREVILLE
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770795/aaaadevf.tel
Line Count: 67
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: 8adcf071-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION AF
Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 77 YAOUNDE 2803
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 07-Feb-2005 12:00:00 am
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 1977058
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: OAU SOUTH AFRICA SPORTS BOYCOTT
TAGS: PORG, OEXC, OAU
To: STATE
Type: TE
vdkgvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/8adcf071-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
22 May 2009
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009